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U P T O N
NURSERY
COMPANY

SPECIALISTS
IN RARE LILACS

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U. S. Department of Agriculture

*"Lilacs in dooryard
Holding quiet conversations with an early
moon;*

*Lilacs watching a deserted house
Settling sideways into the grass of an
old road;*

*Lilacs, wind-beaten, staggering under a
lopsided shock of bloom*

Above a cellar dug into a hill.

You are everywhere."

—Amy Lowell

4838 SPOKANE AVENUE
DETROIT, - MICHIGAN



RARE LILAC SPECIES

From the vast provinces of China, and the fastnesses of the Diamond Mountains of Korea have come many new species. Dauntless plant collectors have brought them to us—men like “Chinese Wilson” and the late Frank N. Meyer, who lost his life in the Yellow River on one of his exploration trips. The following species are all hardy in this climate, are very beautiful, and differ in flower and foliage from the old familiar lilacs. With the exception of *S. villosa*, all are very rare.

S. MICROPHYLLA (Littleleaf Lilac). A very hardy, free-flowering shrub with pale pink very pleasingly fragrant flowers, which is particularly valuable on account of its habit of blooming twice during the same season. It is widely distributed throughout North-Central China, where it was first discovered by a Catholic missionary. \$2.50 each. Two for \$4.50. Three for \$6.00.

S. OBLATA VAR. DILITATA. A variety of *S. oblata* with pale lilac-colored flowers. This very hardy early Lilac is exceptionally beautiful when in flower and has a fine foliage which turns to bronze-green in autumn. It was introduced into cultivation in 1917 by E. H. Wilson, who found it growing in Korea. 2 to 3 ft. \$2.00 each.

S. OBLATA VAR. GIRALDI. A variety of *S. oblata* from the province of Shensi, China. Its pleasing, fragrant, mauve-colored flowers are borne in large, loose clusters. It is a very early bloomer, the blossoms sometimes being caught by late frost. Small plants \$1.00 each.

S. REFLEXA. This distinct and interesting Lilac was discovered in 1901 by E. H. Wilson. He found it growing on the “margins of woods and thickets on the mountains of western Hupeh, in Central China.” The two distinct characteristics of this Lilac are the color of its blossoms and its drooping flower panicles. The flower clusters are narrow and cylindrical, six to ten inches long, and arch downward from near the base—thus the name, “Nodding Lilac.” It is bright red in bud, opening to a pale rose. The late Charles Sargent called it “one of the handsomest of the Chinese Lilacs.” *S. reflexa* was awarded a medal

by the Royal Horticultural Society of England. It is very hardy, small plants going through our Michigan winters without injury. No Lilac collection should be without this spectacular beauty. \$2.50 each. Two for \$4.50. Three for \$6.00.

S. SWEGENZOWI. From the province of Szechuan, China, comes this broad, upright-growing, attractive shrub. It blossoms so profusely that its slender, twiggy branches are curved downward by the slightly fragrant, pale rose-colored flower clusters. This pleasing effect, combined with the symmetrical form and beauty of the dark, full green foliage, make this a Lilac of surpassing loveliness. \$2.50 each. Two for \$4.50. Three for \$6.00.

S. TOMENTELLA. This Lilac, from the borderlands of Tibet, was introduced into cultivation by the late E. H. Wilson. He says, in his *Aristocrat of the Garden*, “I saw this plant in flower for the first time on July 9, 1908, on the frontiers of Eastern Tibet, at an altitude of nine thousand feet, and I thought then that I had never before seen such a handsome species of Lilac. It had foot-high broad panicles of pink to rosy-lilac colored flowers and on other bushes they were white.” This species blossoms about two weeks later than the Common Lilac. \$2.50 each. Two for \$4.50. Three for \$6.00.

S. VELUTINA. This Lilac comes from the mountains of Korea. It is a very variable, tall, upright shrub with slender branches and good foliage. The beautiful, pale lilac-colored flower clusters are pleasingly fragrant. \$3.00 each. Two for \$5.00. Three for \$7.00.

ALL OF OUR LILACS ARE GROWN ON THEIR OWN ROOTS

S. VILLOSA. This is an exceptionally beautiful, vigorous shrub from Peking. Its pale, rose-colored flowers have a slight fragrance resembling that of the Privet. The hardiness, profusion of bloom, and late blooming habit of this species make it a very valuable addition to American gardens. 3 to 4 ft. \$1.00 each.

S. YUNNANENSIS. This beautiful Lilac was discovered near the city of Ta-li Fu in the province of Yunnan, China. It is a slender shrub, eight to ten feet in height, with flowers of pale purplish rose, borne on leafy shoots. It serves best as a background plant in the shrub border. \$2.50 each. Two for \$4.50. Three for \$6.00.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF OUR LILAC PROPAGATING BLOCK

In order to keep our stock true to name, plants for propagation are confined to a special section. The history of each individual lilac is carefully preserved. A record is kept of its source, flower, form, color, size of truss, name of originator, the row in which it is planted, and its number in the row. The whole plat is mapped and blue printed. When taking material for propagation, every precaution is taken that there may be no mixing of varieties.

FRENCH HYBRIDS

These plants come in a great variety of colors and in both single and double forms. Their great clusters are often a foot in length. They are the Aristocrats of the Lilacs.

STRONG, WELL BRANCHED PLANTS, 2 to 3 ft. \$1.50 each. Five for \$6.00.

ALPHONSE LAVALLEE. Double; beautiful sky-blue shading to violet. Individual flowers very large, resembling double hyacinths. Panicles large, long and very compact; fragrance pleasing. One of the finest French Hybrids.

BELLE DE NANCY. Double; brilliant satiny rose. An extremely vigorous and very popular dwarf Lilac, introduced by Emil Lemoine in 1891.

BLEUATRE. Single; bluish lavender; both individual flowers and panicles of medium size; very fragrant. One of the bluest of the Lilacs. On account of its unusual color it is a valuable addition to any garden.

CHARLES JOLY. Double; crimson-violet; very attractive in bud and flower. Flowers and trusses held erect, well above the foliage. One of our best.

CHARLES SARGENT. Double; beautiful mauve-violet with metallic azure tints. Enormous clusters of extra large flowers. A very vigorous and exceptionally good plant.

CHARLES THE TENTH. It is impossible to trace the origin of this Lilac, as there are numerous similar forms in cultivation known as Charles the Tenth. Our plants are propagated from a Lilac of this name obtained from the Arnold Arboretum. Single flowers of red-

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dish violet with dark red buds are borne on medium sized trusses.

CONDORCET. Large semi-double flowers of Argyle purple shading to white, with dark rose colored buds; medium sized, compact panicles. One of Lemoine's first introductions. Very fragrant. Good.

CONGO. Single; deep red-purple; redder than Ludwig Spaeth; marked at throat with Socardo's violet. Enormous flowers and panicles; graceful, drooping branches. One of the choicest Lilacs; very fragrant.

ELLEN WILLMOTT. Double; pure snow white; tall, open pyramidal clusters; flowers large, distinctive. The pure white blossoms, contrasting with the fresh green of the young leaves, create a picture of exquisite loveliness. One of our best Lilacs.

GLOIRE DE MOULINS. Single; Laelia pink; trusses and flowers medium in size. Erect, vigorous bushes; very floriferous. One of the most showy Lilacs in our nursery.

LUDWIG SPAETH. Single; dark crimson-purple. Very large panicles; very fragrant. One of the handsomest of the dark red-purple Lilacs, and one of the best growers and most prolific bloomers.

MARIE LEGRAYE. Large, loose clusters of single ivory-white flowers with cream colored buds. A very popular Lilac which blooms freely, beginning when the plant is quite young.

MICHEL BUCHNER. Double; pale bluish lilac tinged with rose on under side; long, narrow, open clusters. A magnificent Lilac.

MME. ANTOINE BUCHNER. Double; delicate rose shaded mauve with carmine rose buds; trusses open and very large; often a foot long. A late bloomer, fine and showy, exceptionally beautiful in subdued light. One of the "aristocrats of the garden."

MME. CASIMIR PERIER. Double; creamy white with greenish yellow buds; clusters large and well filled. A free and dependable bloomer; very fragrant.

MME. KREUTER. Single; Lobelia violet shading to Bishop's purple. Flowers medium, borne in large panicles. A good Lilac that blooms profusely.

MME. LEMOINE. Double; snow white; large flowers and panicles. This beautiful Lilac of surpassing whiteness is a worthy addition to any garden.

PRESIDENT GREVY. Double; blue shading to cobalt edged with rose; flowers large and borne in huge panicles. A very vigorous bush and rapid grower. An early and very popular introduction of Lemoine.

VESTALE. Single; enormous panicles of very large pure white flowers with conspicuous yellow anthers. The buds are a pale greenish yellow. A distinctive and remarkably attractive Lilac; delightfully fragrant.

TRUE HYBRIDS

These are produced by the crossing of plants differing more or less in kind, but usually closely related and of the same genus. Strong plants \$2.50 each, two for \$4.50, three for \$6.00, unless otherwise specified.

S. LUTECE. This truly remarkable Lilac of exceptional beauty flowers late, after the Common Lilac has faded. Its violet-purple flowers are borne in large clusters, often a foot or more in length. This vigorous hybrid is a rapid grower and makes a shapely bush, valuable either as a specimen or when planted with other shrubs.

S. NANCEIANA FLOREAL. Emil Lemoine produced this by crossing Lutece with *S. swegenzowi*. It resembles the latter in the form of its flowers and the former in its color, which is an attractive mauve-lilac. This pleasing, free-blooming shrub promises to become very popular. It is vigorous and very rare.

LAMARTINE. This hybrid bears big loose clusters of large single flowers, purplish lilac marked with Lobelia violet. It has been awarded a medal by the Royal Horticultural Society, and is one of the earliest bloomers.

S. CHINENSIS (S. rothamagensis) (Rouen Lilac). A natural hybrid between *S. persica* and *S. vulgaris*. It resembles the former in its narrow leaves and twiggy growth, the latter in its color. Its reddish purple flowers are borne in enormous clusters and in the greatest profusion. It is undoubtedly one of the finest of the Lilacs. \$1.00 each.

S. CHINESIS F. ALBA. A white form of the Rouen Lilac with pronounced violet markings at the throat of the corolla. \$1.50 each.

TREE LILACS

These are tree-like in growth and perfectly hardy. They make beautiful lawn specimens and in extensive border plantings of tall shrubs give an added note of interest to the composition. \$1.50 each. Five for \$6.00.

S. AMURENSIS. This is a native of the Amur country of Northeastern Asia. It becomes a shapely, well branched, round topped tree that reaches a height of about twenty feet. The clusters of ivory-white flowers have a clover-like fragrance.

S. JAPONICA. This hardy tree lilac is a native of Japan. It may reach a height of thirty feet, and bears its small white flowers in great compound panicles over a foot in length. It grows rapidly into a well shaped tree with a bark resembling that of the Cherry.

We carry a number of additional Rare Species and Hybrid Lilacs which we can supply in small quantities only.